

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of	)	<b>MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE</b>
	)	
Hiroyuki Sugawara	)	Group Art Unit: 3761
	)	
Application No.: 10/574,201	)	Examiner: Adam M. Marcetich
	)	
Filed: March 31, 2006	)	Confirmation No.: 8956
	)	
For: METHOD OF PRODUCING BLOOD	)	
PROCESSING CIRCUITS AND FILTER	)	
UNIT	)	

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Notice of Allowability issued in the above-identified application is accompanied by an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance. The Statement discusses the disclosures in a number of the cited references. By way of example, the Statement mentions the Fell patent and points out that Fell's bacterial filter 54 is not disclosed as performing leukoreduction or leukofiltration. Though applicant does not necessarily take exception with the accuracy of this observation, the relevance of the observation is not apparent. The purpose for this paper is simply to point out that the allowed independent claims in this application do not specify leukoreduction or leukofiltration by the filter unit.

The comments in the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be understood to imply that the claims in this application recite anything different than that which the claims themselves set forth.

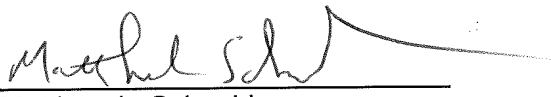
Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this paper, or should the Examiner disagree in any way with the observations presented above, the Examiner is kindly asked to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: June 24, 2009

By:

  
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